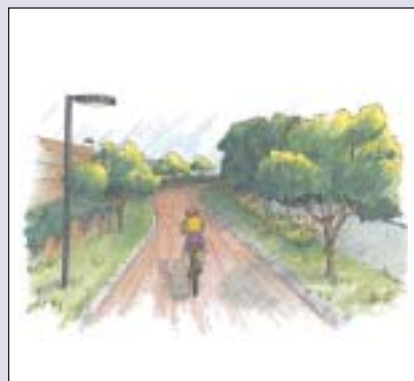
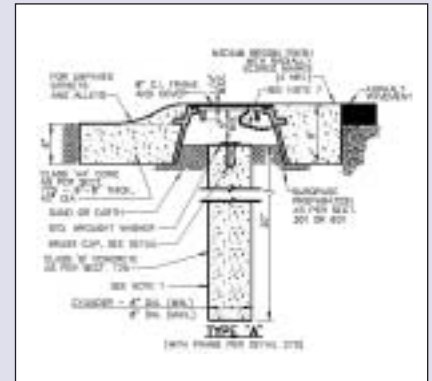
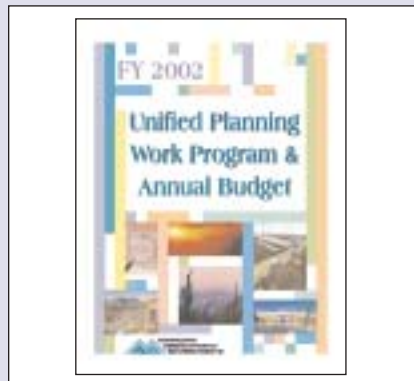
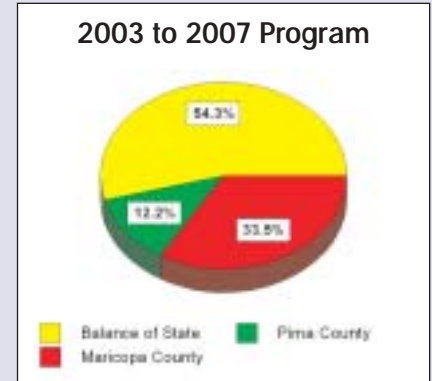


Executive Director's Report of MAG's Annual Accomplishments 2001





Dear Members:

It is with a great deal of pride each year that I bring forward this report on MAG's annual accomplishments. Although I witness every day the incredibly hard work of the MAG staff, it is nevertheless astounding to see on paper all that is accomplished every year.

So much work is done that I hesitate to try to identify highlights. But along with our "normal" job duties, the past year has seen us take on many new and exciting projects.

Perhaps most significant from a regional perspective is the development of a new Regional Transportation Plan. Phase I was launched with five expert panel forums and a kick-off dinner to identify and address major forces that will affect travel behavior in the future. Sixteen community focus groups were conducted throughout the region to identify transportation ideas and issues from geographically and ethnically diverse groups of citizens. The forums and focus groups helped lead to the identification of regional goals and values in preparation for Phase II of the Plan.

We launched the Freeway Safety Patrol program, which results in the rescue of thousands of stranded motorists every month in the Valley. The program has enhanced overall motorist safety and reduced disruptions to the flow of traffic on the freeway system.

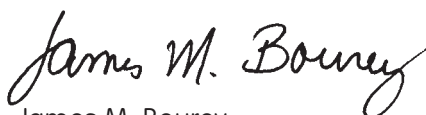
We completed a regional plan on Aging & Mobility, and have already begun to work on implementing the 25 recommendations laid out in the plan. The process has propelled our organization to the national forefront of this issue, and a national conference planned by MAG early next year is drawing interest from around the country.

In the area of air quality, we continue to make tremendous strides, having achieved five years of clean data for ozone and soon-to-be five clean years for carbon monoxide.

Our staff continues to develop through our comprehensive professional development program, and we continue to provide resources, outreach, and services to our member agencies and the three million residents of our region.

The list goes on, as you will find between these pages. When you're through reading this report, I hope you will agree with me that the work being done in this region is of the highest quality, through the expertise of the highest quality staff.

Sincerely,



James M. Bourey
Executive Director

MAG's Annual Accomplishments 2001

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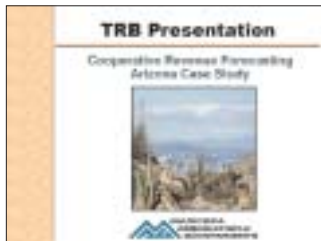
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Organizational Structure and Operational Improvements



Presented to National Professional Organizations

During 2001, the Executive Director delivered a number of presentations to national organizations, including the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO), the Transportation Review Board (TRB) Best Practices Conference, the Western COG Director's Association, and the Western States Intermodal Planning Group Conference. These presentations enhanced the perception of MAG nationwide, especially among peer groups.



Participated in Arizona Town Hall

The Executive Director participated in the Arizona Town Hall focusing on the topic "Pieces of Power—Governance in Arizona." This participation helped educate participants in the role and responsibilities of MAG.



Completed Evaluations of Executive Director, Managers, and Staff

As part of the Executive Director's effort to foster excellent internal communication, provide appropriate leadership for the staff, and continue the evaluation process in the agency, the staff anonymously evaluated the Executive Director. Staff also completed evaluations for their managers. Additionally, personnel evaluations were completed for all staff members, providing important and timely feedback to employees on their performance. The results of all evaluations were very positive and useful.



Supported MAG Governance Task Force

In May, the Regional Council established a Regional Governance Task Force and an Advisory Committee to study the issues of regional governance, which included the roles and responsibilities of MAG, transit planning, MAG membership, and voting membership of the Regional Council and other MAG committees. In 15 meetings of the committees, several improvements to the MAG governance process were recommended.

Organizational Structure and Operational Improvements



Enhanced Professional Staff Capability

Increased the technical resources available to this region by searching nationally for the most experienced and professionally trained staff to address complex urban modeling needs. Staff members with several years of land use modeling training were added to the staff. Having a very well trained modeling staff has allowed MAG to meet the land use, transportation, and air quality challenges that have faced this region.



Implemented Cultural Diversity Forums

To promote a better understanding of the various cultures of the MAG staff, a cultural diversity program was established. This program highlights diverse cultures through luncheon meetings arranged by members of the staff. Presentations have been made about Sri Lanka, Mexico, China, India, Korea, and the Native American culture. These presentations included foods from the regions, Powerpoint presentations, and displays of crafts indigenous to the cultures. These voluntary events have been some of the most highly attended activities among MAG staff.



Provided Emotional Intelligence Training

In the fall of 2000, a session on emotional intelligence was provided to the Executive Team (division managers) of MAG. Emotional Intelligence is the capacity to understand, value, and wisely manage our emotions in relationship to others and ourselves. Following this training, the concept was introduced at the 2000 staff retreat. Following the staff retreat, individual coaching was provided to those who requested it. Over 50 percent of the staff has participated in the individual coaching.



Published an Article in Public Management Magazine

With the positive acceptance of the Emotional Intelligence training, the Executive Director and the consultant authored an article on the MAG experience with emotional intelligence training. The article appeared in Public Management Magazine, which is the professional magazine of the city management profession.

Organizational Structure and Operational Improvements



Hosted Employee Appreciation Day

A MAG Employee Appreciation Day was celebrated with an Americana theme to honor the hard work of MAG staff throughout the year, and to present awards to those employees with more than 5 years of service with MAG.



Improved Payment Options for In-house Publications

As part of the ongoing drive to improve services and efficiency, MAG moved from its internal Paradox invoicing system to QuickBooks Pro. This change improved performance and allowed MAG to accept credit card payments for its publications. During 2001, MAG began accepting payment by VISA and MasterCard to provide increased flexibility to individuals or agencies procuring our publications.



Upgraded Staff Computers to Assist in Telecommuting and Efficiency

MAG upgraded key systems to promote telecommuting and assist staff in their modeling and planning efforts. These upgrades also included a gradual migration to Windows 2000. These changes will help staff deal with the increasing complexity and expanding run times of Socioeconomic, Transportation and Air Quality modeling.



Negotiated Costs for Commercial Insurance Coverage

While most organizations have recently witnessed large increases in their costs of commercial insurance coverage, MAG succeeded in its efforts to enhance the existing coverage and maintain a minimal price increase for employees.

Professional Development



Gave Presentations at Numerous Conferences

MAG staff was requested to make presentations to numerous groups such as university classes, member agencies, other Councils of Governments, and local business and community interests. Topics ranged from an overview of MAG, modeling and data collection, and the "View of the Valley 2040." MAG staff members also attended the ESRI International Users Conference and the Southwestern Users Group Conference. Posters and papers on the GIS and modeling work at MAG were presented.



Set Up Internal Technical Training Courses

MAG regularly offers staff training in the use of software products, such as Microsoft Outlook, and in the use of hardware equipment such as audio conferencing and presentation equipment. This year MAG added training on using laptops for teleworking as part of its efforts to expand participation in that program. Users were also offered vendor supplied audio conferencing training as part of the Regional Videoconferencing System, and MAG staff now provides this training for new users.



Geographic Information Systems

Offered Internal Ad-hoc Training in Software Products

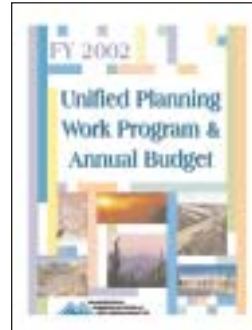
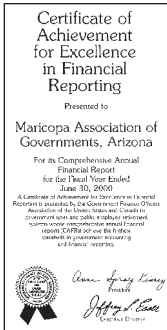
MAG provides one-on-one specialized training for software users as needed, such as for Microsoft Office and ESRI GIS products. This training includes everything from credit card processing to the basics of database design and Geographic Information System (GIS) use. Ad-hoc training is more task-specific and personal, allowing users to participate more in the training process and get specific questions answered.



Attended Technical Area Training, Seminars and Meetings

MAG staff desires to stay current in the ever-changing technical environment. Staff attends seminars, meetings, and user groups devoted to the exchange of technical information, and attends training sessions as necessary.

Fiscal Management



Received Award from the Government Finance Officers Association

The agency's financial reporting accomplishments were acknowledged by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) with the awarding of the Certificate for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the agency's June 30, 2000 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. This is the third consecutive year that MAG has received this award. In addition, for the second time, MAG received the GFOA's Distinguished Budget award for the fiscal year 2001 Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget. Additionally, there were no management letter comments or audit findings for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2001.

Improved Grant Management

MAG began participating in the electronic funds transfer program with the Federal Aviation Administration in 1998. The process of electronically receiving payments contributes to improving MAG's grant management and cash flow. In 2001, MAG began participating in the electronic funds transfer program with the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the United States Department of Energy, and the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT).

Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

For the first time, staff incorporated FY 2001 TIP closeout projects into the Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget for the upcoming MAG fiscal year.



Fiscal Services Projects

During 2001, MAG's FY 2002 Indirect Cost Plan, prepared in accordance with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-87, was filed and approved by the Arizona Department of Transportation.

The fixed asset management system software was upgraded in anticipation of a new financial reporting model by the Government Accounting Standards Board. Implementation of the core modules in the financial management system was completed, while implementation of the query and financial reporting modules began.

Communications and Agency Outreach



Maintained Public Involvement Process

Maintained a proactive public involvement process that provided complete information, timely public notice, and full access to key decisions by all segments of the population. Activities included two public hearings, a transportation fair, issue-oriented focus groups and forums, small group presentations, special events, and several town halls. Three input opportunity reports were prepared to summarize comments taken during each phase of the input process.

Participated in Special Events

As part of our continuous efforts to expand our outreach, MAG participated in numerous special events throughout 2001, hosting information booths at the State Fair, Sunday on Central, several freeway grand openings, Black History Month, Cinco de Mayo, and quarterly "MAG At the Mall" events. Most of these activities were held in conjunction with the Arizona Department of Transportation, Valley Connections, and Valley Metro. The events helped to increase name recognition, goodwill and positive feelings among those who do not regularly interact with our agencies.

Implemented the Community Outreach Associate Program

Successfully implemented the Community Outreach Associate program to reach out to Title VI communities. Four Outreach Associates have been hired as liaisons to each of the following communities: Hispanic, African American, Native American, and people with disabilities. Earlier this year, the program won an award of excellence for community relations from the Public Relations Society of America.

Produced an Informational MAG Video

Produced a short video about MAG to serve as an informative overview of our agency, programs, roles and responsibilities. The video is designed to be used by member agencies and MAG staff in public and internal presentations, and to help introduce MAG as an essential regional partner to those both familiar and unfamiliar with our organization.



Communications and Agency Outreach



Conducted a Broadcast Feasibility Study

The study was designed to determine the benefits and feasibility of carrying MAG Regional Council meetings on city cable channels, including an analysis of potential cost and programming options.



Improved Media Relations

Continued to increase positive media coverage through individual meetings with reporters, targeted press releases, widespread media contacts, and increased public outreach. These contacts helped secure numerous positive media placements, leading to increased participation in MAG events and activities. In addition, all major MAG meetings are now carried in the calendar section of the Arizona Republic, with geographic-specific meetings listed in appropriate community sections after being targeted by zip codes.



Provided Information to the Public

Increased distribution of MAG informational materials through additional public events. Materials distributed included various fact sheets, newsletters, freeway and bike maps, air quality materials, domestic violence safety brochures, information resources, and more.



Increased Distribution of MAGAZine

Increased distribution of MAGAZine and continued to spread the word about MAG activities and actions through this quarterly newsletter. The MAGAZine has a current circulation of approximately 4,000. The newsletter contains 12 pages of stories, columns, and important information that provides readers with an overview of MAG events throughout the year. The MAGAZine recently received an Award of Merit for newsletters from the Public Relations Society of America.



Communications and Agency Outreach



Continued to Produce Regional Council Activity Report

This monthly report provides a summary of actions taken during Regional Council meetings, as well as up-to-the-minute information on upcoming issues and events. This document is targeted toward MAG member agencies and individuals who are not able to regularly attend MAG meetings. It serves as a valuable information source about major Council actions and activities.



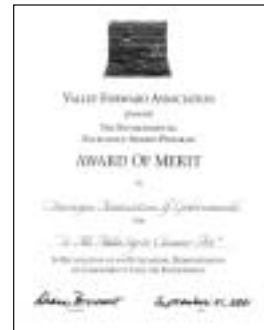
Established an Internal Communications Working Group

An internal communications working group was formed to implement strategies to keep employees informed, engaged, and content in their workplace environment. To improve internal communication, MAG implemented an employee newsletter, "iMAGine." This bi-monthly newsletter contains employee profiles, notices of MAG activities, information about employee happenings, computer tips, and a section called "Ask Maggie," in which employees can receive answers to employment-related questions submitted by staff.



Hosted Contingency Planning Forums

Began hosting contingency planning meetings to facilitate dialogue among cities and enable the sharing of information and resources to help evaluate the region's readiness and ability to respond to a major regional crisis, such as terrorist attacks, and help member agencies prepare for a potential region wide catastrophe.



Received an Award for "It All Adds Up to Cleaner Air" Program

Received an environmental award for completion of the "It All Adds Up to Cleaner Air" public education initiative. The initiative was conducted in partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Transportation. The purpose was to let people know that the choices they make in getting around town have a direct impact on air quality. The campaign highlighted three main messages: combine trips, maintain your car, and rideshare. More than seven million people were exposed to the campaign messages during the two years of the initiative.



Communications and Agency Outreach



Continued Partnership with the Clean Air Campaign

Continued partnership with the Clean Air Campaign and Valley Metro to plan and carry out summer and winter campaigns to reduce air pollution. Activities included press conferences to kick off each campaign period. The press conferences included keynote speeches by the MAG Chair and Vice Chair, along with visual demonstrations and other activities. Campaign activities included television, radio, and billboard advertising, along with public relations efforts.



Hosted 2001 Desert Peaks Awards Program

Hosted successful Desert Peaks Awards program to highlight regional achievement and honor outstanding partnerships among jurisdictions.



Partnered With Valley-wide PIO Group and Hosted Focus Groups

Worked with the Valley-wide PIO Group to provide consistent information and messages on issues of mutual concern throughout the region, including coordination of brochures and fact sheets related to issues of domestic preparedness.

MAG also hosted focus groups to provide input on a potential MAG name change. Focus groups included the PIO group of public relations professionals, members of the MAG Management Committee, Title VI Community Outreach Associates, and the Valley Citizens League.



Improved Access to Key Documents on MAG Web Site

In an effort to provide information more readily to the public, MAG has included key financial documents on the MAG Web site. Some of these include: the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, the Annual Work Program and Budget, and Annual Tax Reports.

Communications and Agency Outreach



Developed Final Report on Incarceration of Municipal Prisoners

The Regional Council accepted the Incarceration of Municipal Prisoners Final Report. The Management Committee formed a working group to work with Maricopa County regarding municipal prisoner issues related to the building of the new County jail facilities. The report made a number of recommendations regarding how cities and towns can work more effectively in the future, especially regarding the processing of prisoners, which would release officers sooner to their law enforcement duties.



Evaluated Animal Control Practices

Through a committee formed by the Management Committee, MAG held a series of meetings to examine the animal control practices of Maricopa County. As a result of this effort, a number of options were provided to the cities and towns for animal control services, ranging from continuing with the County to performing the service locally or jointly providing the service.



Held Western States Intermodal Planning Group Annual Conference

Each year, metropolitan planning organizations gather to share information regarding the latest state-of-the-art planning practices. This year, MAG served as the host agency for the conference. Over 150 planning professionals participated in the conference, which had numerous panels, breakout sessions, and presentations. In addition to the usual conference format, MAG held a special half-day session on aviation issues and a post-conference session on connecting the regional community through video conferencing. Numerous members of the MAG staff were responsible for hosting the conference, including arranging the panels, participating in the presentations, and handling logistical arrangements.



Held Regional Council Retreat

At the Regional Council Retreat, staff presented information on the dramatic growth expected to occur in this region over the next 40 years. The consensus at the retreat was for the Regional Council to work on four items: (1) Regional review of local plans; (2) Broaden public and private sector participation in MAG; (3) Investigate local government revenue sharing; and (4) Explore a name change for MAG.

Communications and Agency Outreach



Held Joint Meeting with Governor's Transportation Vision 21 Task Force

The MAG Regional Council Executive Committee and the MAG Regional Council Transportation Subcommittee met with members of the Governor's Transportation Vision 21 Task Force. Preliminary findings of the Task Force were discussed with MAG. Later in the process of the Governor's Task Force, the Regional Council expressed their opposition to many of the preliminary and final recommendations of the Task Force.

Continued Business Community Partnership

The organization has been an active, participating member in several community organizations, including:

- Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce
- East Valley Partnership
- Valley Forward Association
- American Highway Users Alliance
- WESTMARC
- Greater Phoenix Economic Council

Continued Governmental Partnership

Participated with the MAG member agencies in several forums, to increase the dialogue regarding regional issues. These groups include Arizona Town Hall, the League of Arizona Cities and Towns Conference and the Arizona City/County Management Association. In many instances, multiple presentations were made to these groups.

Enhanced the MAG Web Site to Facilitate Awareness of MAG and its Mission

The MAG Web site provides information to the public. MAG has been working closely with a consultant to define the new look and feel of the MAG Web site. The new site will be easier for member agencies and the public to use and search. A content management program will make it easier for MAG staff to keep the site current and relevant. The new site will also include an expanded interactive mapping section and publication sales. The reinvented MAG Web site should be available to member agencies and the general public in the first quarter of 2002.

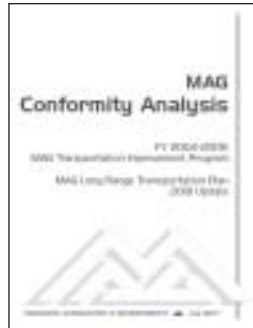
Program Accomplishments

Environmental Programs



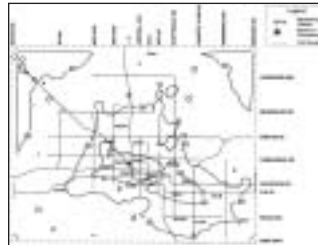
Submitted Revised MAG 1999 Serious Area Carbon Monoxide Plan to the EPA

The Revised MAG 1999 Serious Area Carbon Monoxide Plan for the Maricopa County Nonattainment Area was adopted by the Regional Council on March 28, 2001. The plan was revised to reflect the repeal of the Remote Sensing Program from the Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program by the Arizona Legislature. Collectively, the plan contained 55 air quality measures designed to attain the standard by December 31, 2000. Key measures in the plan include: Clean Burning Winter Fuel; Strengthened Cutpoints and a One Time Waiver for the Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program; and Traffic Synchronization. On October 9, 2001, the Environmental Protection Agency issued a completeness finding for the revised plan.



Received Conformity Approval for the MAG Transportation Improvement Program and Long Range Transportation Plan

The conformity analysis was completed by MAG staff on June 3, 2001 and approved by the MAG Regional Council on July 25, 2001 after a public hearing held on July 3, 2001. The Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration made a joint finding of conformity for the FY 2002-2006 Transportation Improvement Program and Long Range Transportation Plan Update on August 16, 2001. Under federal regulations, transportation projects cannot proceed unless they are from a conforming regional transportation plan and a transportation improvement program.



Completed Emission Reduction Assessment of Proposed Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Projects

In accordance with Federal Highway Administration guidance, staff conducted an emission reduction assessment for proposed Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) projects submitted for the FY 2003-2007 Transportation Improvement Program. Once again, staff enhanced the procedure for assessing emission reduction benefits to enable additional projects to be quantified. The emission reduction and corresponding emission reduction per total project cost results were presented to various MAG modal committees for use in prioritizing projects for funding.



Developed Recommendations and Processed CMAQ Funding for Prioritized List of Street Sweeper Projects

MAG solicited PM-10 certified street sweeper projects from member agencies in the Maricopa County PM-10 nonattainment area. Fifteen projects requesting approximately \$2 million in federal funds were received from agencies. Based upon federal CMAQ guidance, the proposed PM-10 certified street sweeper projects were evaluated by MAG staff to estimate emission reductions. The Regional Council approved the prioritized list of proposed PM-10 certified street sweepers for FY 2002 CMAQ funding and retained the prioritized list for additional funding that may be made available to the region.

Program Accomplishments

Environmental Programs



Completed MAG PM-10 Efficient Street Sweeper Study

In October 2001, MAG staff completed a study on the applicability of the PM-10 efficient street sweepers certified by the South Coast Air Quality Management District in the Maricopa County non-attainment area. Collectively, a total of fourteen MAG member agencies participated in the study. Overall, the capital cost of certified sweepers were one to two percent more expensive than similar noncertified models. Also, the certified sweepers were found to be similar in operating and maintenance requirements and abilities.



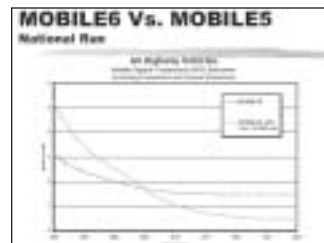
Prepared Resolution for Additional Inspectors for the Maricopa County Dust Control Program

Working with the MAG member agencies, MAG staff prepared and the Regional Council adopted a resolution for Maricopa County for hiring four additional inspectors for the Dust Control Program. Through these cooperative efforts with the County, additional personnel were hired, resulting in strengthened enforcement of the Program.



Initiated the Development of the MAG Visibility Modeling System

On July 25, 2001, the Regional Council approved a consulting agreement to develop the MAG Visibility Modeling System. The modeling system will include latest state-of-the-art numerical models for the overall air quality modeling chain currently employed by MAG. Once the project is completed, the new system will be useful for evaluating control measures to reduce the visible Brown Cloud in the region.

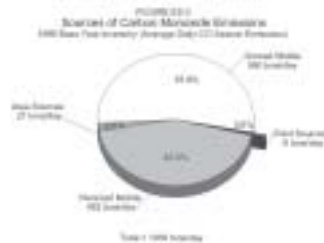


Installed, Evaluated, and Tested a New Onroad Mobile Emissions Model

In 2001, the Environmental Protection Agency proposed a new onroad mobile emissions model, MOBILE6. MAG staff installed, evaluated, and tested the new model to identify how it would potentially impact future air quality plans and transportation conformity analyses. Staff also reviewed the draft guidance that accompanied the proposed onroad mobile emissions model.

Program Accomplishments

Environmental Programs



Obtained Five Years of Clean Data for Ozone and Four Years for Carbon Monoxide

The air quality measures implemented by state and local governments for several years have resulted in no violations of the one hour ozone standard in 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, and 2001. Effective June 29, 2001, the EPA made a final determination of attainment of the one-hour ozone standard. Planning efforts are underway to prepare a maintenance plan and complete the remaining steps to redesignate the region to attainment status. There have been no violations of the carbon monoxide standard in 1997, 1998, 1999, and 2000 due to the air quality measures implemented by the State and local governments. Efforts are underway to prepare a maintenance plan and complete the remaining steps to redesignate the region to attainment status.

Continued the Preparation of the MAG Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Plan

MAG staff continued the efforts underway to prepare a Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Plan as an important step for redesignation to attainment status. The maintenance plan will include an air quality modeling analysis of control measures through the year 2015. The overall planning process includes evaluating emission inventories, analysis of control measures, assessing maintenance status, and preparing plan documents.

Initiated the Preparation of the MAG Ozone Maintenance Plan

In 2001, MAG staff initiated the preparation of an Ozone Maintenance Plan for the one hour ozone standard as a major step for redesignation to attainment status. The maintenance plan will include an air quality modeling analysis of control measures through the year 2015. The overall planning process includes evaluating emission inventories, analysis of control measures, assessing maintenance status, and preparing plan documents.

Provided Funding for and Participated in the Governor's Ozone Alert Program

MAG came forward as the key financial sponsor (\$300,000) for the Governor's Ozone Alert Program to enhance advertising, marketing, and public relations. In partnership with the business community, this program helped to achieve no exceedances of the ozone standard in 2001. Three High Pollution Advisory days were issued during the summer to alert residents of atmospheric conditions favorable for elevated levels of ozone. On these days, residents and commuters reduced their single occupant vehicle travel to improve air quality.

Program Accomplishments

Environmental Programs



Submitted 2001 Vehicle Miles of Travel Forecasting and Tracking Report to the Environmental Protection Agency

As part of the Revised 1999 Serious Area Carbon Monoxide Plan, the Regional Council committed to annually update the forecast of vehicle miles of travel and submit reports to the Environmental Protection Agency. The tracking report is designed to ensure that forecasts used in the Serious Area Carbon Monoxide Plan remain accurate. As required, the report was submitted to EPA in November 2001.



Distributed Funding Received from a \$70,000 Grant from the U.S. Department of Energy for the Clean Cities Program

In August 1999, the U.S. Department of Energy awarded MAG a grant for the Clean Cities—Dedicated Alternative Fuel Vehicle Rebate Program. A total of \$70,000 was ultimately provided by the Department of Energy to assist in purchasing 35 dedicated alternative fuel vehicles. The award recipients included four member agencies and two school districts. The funding will assist these entities in meeting state mandated requirements for fleets.



Initiated a Major Revision to the MAG Regional Solid Waste Management Plan

In October 2001, a scope of work was developed by MAG staff to prepare a major revision to the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan for review by the Solid Waste Advisory Committee. The revision will be designed to update the facilities and policies in the current plan. It will also provide for systems-level regional solid waste management planning, and guide facility implementation.



Provided Technical Assistance in Solid Waste Management Planning to MAG Members and the Arizona Valley-Wide Recycling Coordinators Group

Upon request, the MAG staff provided technical assistance in solid waste management planning by providing data to member agencies from the Solid Waste Information Management System database. At the request of the City of Phoenix, MAG continued to participate in the public involvement process for the new City of Phoenix landfill and transfer station. Also, MAG participated in the Arizona Valley-Wide Recycling Coordinators Group to share information on regionwide recycling needs and programs.

Program Accomplishments

Environmental Programs



Completed an Update of the MAG Solid Waste Information Management System Database and Regional Recycling Information Exchange Web Site

The Solid Waste Information Management System database was updated to include new information on residential and commercial solid waste generation, solid waste management facilities, local waste management plans and changes in solid waste management service areas. In addition, the Regional Recycling Exchange Web site was updated to include new local government recycling programs and new links to access recycling educational programs.



Continued the Preparation of a Major Revision to the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan

The planning efforts continued to prepare a major revision to the 208 Water Quality Management Plan. The 208 Water Quality Management Plan is the key guiding document for the regional MAG 208 Water Quality Management Program. This year, several inquiries were received about adding new wastewater treatment facilities to the 208 Plan, which is indicative of the high growth rate experienced by the region. The revision will include the desired wastewater treatment configuration for each member agency covering a twenty-year period, and a description of current state and federal water quality regulations and programs.



Provided Technical Assistance to MAG Members for 208 Water Quality Management Plan

The 208 Water Quality Management Plan contains the desired wastewater treatment configuration for the Maricopa County area. In 2001, MAG staff provided technical assistance to MAG members for six 208 Plan Amendments and one small plant review and approval. The amendments approved by the Regional Council include wastewater treatment facilities in Buckeye, and water reclamation facilities in Goodyear/Litchfield Park, North Phoenix, and Surprise/El Mirage. The Regional Council also approved the Glendale Russell Ranch Wastewater Reclamation Facility through the small plant process.



Participated in the Arizona Unified Water Quality Permit Rewrite Project and Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permitting Program

During 2001, MAG staff participated in the Arizona Unified Water Quality Permit Rewrite Project and Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permitting Program, in order to preserve and protect local government authority in the 208 Water Quality Management Planning Process. The new State Water Quality Planning Rules were adopted and became effective in January 2001. The rules require that all sewage treatment facilities (including an expansion), before construction, conform to the 208 Water Quality Management Plan.

Program Accomplishments

Human Services



Completed Regional Plan on Aging & Mobility

Over 75 community stakeholders participated in a 15-month planning process to address the issues of aging and mobility. The result was the creation of 25 recommendations in the 2001-2002 Regional Action Plan on Aging & Mobility. An extensive public input effort was also conducted through three regional public forums and four small focus groups with seniors, baby-boomers, caregivers, and agency representatives. Over 15 national and local experts also provided input into the process. The recommendations focus on four critical areas to address senior mobility: (1) Infrastructure and Land Use; (2) Alternative Transportation Modes; (3) Older Driver Competency; and (4) Education and Training.



Implemented the MAG Domestic Violence Plan

MAG supported the successful effort this year to implement five of the 41 recommendations in the 1999 Regional Domestic Violence Plan. Over 50 small and large corporations joined the Employers Against Domestic Violence Initiative, pledging to develop workplace domestic violence policies and train their employees. Over six local jurisdictions were trained this year in developing their own local domestic violence coordinating councils, as well as direct-service Crisis Response Teams. Three local training resources were developed in the areas of Crisis Response, Local Coordinating Councils, and a Faith-based manual.



Received Funding for Homeless Programs

MAG was responsible for preparing a regional application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to support housing and supportive services for homeless people. This past year, the region received the largest award ever—\$18 million. In addition, HUD named our Continuum of Care a "best practice" and the Regional Homeless Continuum of Care Committee was profiled in an Urban Institute Best Practice Study commissioned by HUD. Another success this year was securing a \$100,000 grant from the Department of Economic Security to develop an implementation plan for a valleywide Homeless Management Information System.

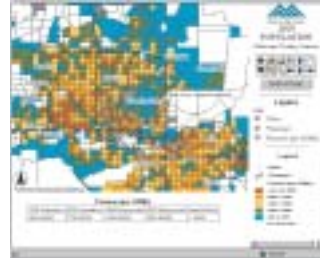


Secured \$1 Million Legislative Appropriation of TANF Funds

Provided input to the Joint Legislative Committee on Welfare Reform concerning the importance of the Social Service Block Grant (SSBG) dollars to local programs, which help the most vulnerable populations in our region. Since the advent of welfare reform in 1996, SSBG has been continually reduced at the federal level, compromising the ability of local programs to provide these basic need services. To help offset the reductions to SSBG, the legislature appropriated approximately \$1 million in savings from the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funds to Councils of Governments across the state for both fiscal years 2002 and 2003. This amounted to approximately \$609,000 in additional funds for the MAG 2001-2002 Social Services Block Grant Plan.

Program Accomplishments

Information Services



Prepared and Received Regional Council Approval for Population Updates

The July 1, 2000 and July 1, 2001 Municipal Resident Population Updates were based on Census 2000 and on the ongoing Residential Completions collection from the member agencies. MAG prepared revised July 1, 2000 Population and Housing Unit updates by Municipality based on the April 1, 2000 Census and the ongoing Residential Completion data collected from member agencies. In accordance with Executive Order 95-2, MAG also prepared July 1, 2001 Population and Housing Unit updates by Municipality. The Regional Council approved the July 1, 2001 updates on October 3, 2001.

Continued to Enhance New Socioeconomic Forecasting Models

MAG continued to enhance socioeconomic forecasting models, particularly Metropolis and the Small Area Model-Information Manager (SAM-IM) with local participants. In preparation for the next round of socioeconomic projections in 2002, Metropolis, the new version of DRAM/EMPAL, is being tested. SAM-IM, the socioeconomic model used to develop projections for traffic analysis zones, has been enhanced to better handle multiple use land use types, development and redevelopment projects and other requirements of the MAG transportation models.

Added Maps and Interactive Data to the MAG Web Site

Regional interactive online maps and data have been added to the MAG Web site. It is now possible to access and create maps and data relating to population and employment projections, census data, and existing and general plan land use. As new data is developed, the Web site will continue to be updated and improved.

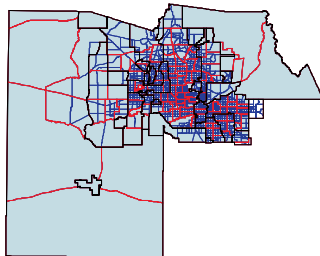
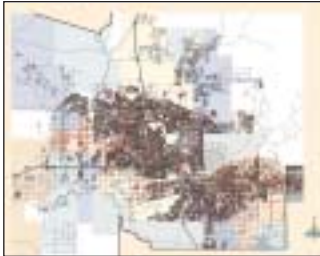
Created the MAG Bikeways Map

"Bikeways," a Regional Bicycle map, was produced. This map was prepared as an aid to bicyclists and shows existing, locally designated bicycle facilities. The map won third place for Best Cartographic Publication in the ESRI International User Conference 2001 competition.



Program Accomplishments

Information Services



Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Database Enhancement Project

The goal of this project is to develop new base data in conjunction with the arrival of the Year 2000 Census to provide population projections in June 2002.

The base data includes new street centerlines, land use coverages, development areas, employment and special population databases, and revised surveys and assumptions.

The GIS and Database Enhancement Project includes a new street centerline file (MAGNet), existing (Year 2000) land use coverage, general plan land use coverage, development/redevelopment area coverage, employer database/coverage, special population databases, and revised surveys and assumptions.

Worked with Member Agencies to Review Data, Surveys and Assumptions Collected for the GIS and Database Enhancement Project

To ensure the content and accuracy of products from the GIS and Database Enhancement Project, all data, coverages and methodologies were provided to the MAG member agencies for their review and comment. This ensures that the jurisdictions are aware of the data inputs and methodologies used in the production of the socioeconomic projections.

Data/coverages sent to jurisdictions for review include the street centerline file, the development/redevelopment data, the employer database, the special population databases, the general plan land use and the existing (2000) land use.

Completion of the GIS and Database Project

Completion of the GIS and Database project will provide new databases, coverages and methodologies used in regional land use, transportation, and air quality modeling.

This data will provide the base data for the population, housing unit and employment projections to be completed in 2002. The data and methodologies developed through this project will ensure that MAG modeling efforts are based on current and accurate information.

Internal GIS/Modeling User Group Met Regularly to Share Modeling and GIS Knowledge

The MAG GIS and Modeling User Group met on a regular basis to facilitate the sharing of data and knowledge as it pertains to GIS and modeling purposes. The objective of this group is to ensure that MAG staff is aware of the GIS data and work being performed and the inter-relationships between divisional work activities.

Program Accomplishments

Information Services



Conducted Analysis of Local General Plans

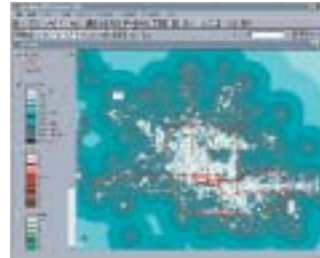
As a result of the Growing Smarter Initiative, a number of analyses were conducted to examine the impact of local general plans on the region.

A socioeconomic analysis included a build-out analysis of the plan, a look at job/housing balances at the regional level, and an examination of concentrations of employment and residential uses. Analyses of Environmentally Sensitive Development Areas included the identification of areas falling under conservation and various classifications of retention areas.



Created Socioeconomic Information and Maps to Support Regional Transportation Planning

Regional build-out analyses and alternative growth scenarios were modeled in support of the Regional Transportation effort. Maps depicting base population levels, General Plans, build-out levels for population and employment were created for the process. Data supporting the needs of the effort were provided to various consultants.



Created Maps, Tables and Analysis of Census 2000 Data to Assist MAG Member Agencies

MAG staff created maps displaying Census 2000 data, including corporate boundaries, population density, persons per household, group quarters, and occupancy rates—to help MAG in its review and analysis of Census information. MAG also provided maps identifying the absolute and density change in population and housing from the 1990 Census to the 2000 Census by Census Tract. These maps were provided to member agencies to facilitate challenges to Census Bureau housing counts as a part of the Count Question Resolution Program.



Worked with the Census Bureau on the Design for the Special Census Program and Estimated Potential Costs of a Special Census

MAG staff attended a focus group in Washington, D.C. to provide input on the Special Census Program and voice support for its continuation. MAG staff also met and collaborated with Census Bureau staff on a Potential 2005 Special Census for Maricopa County along with potential alternatives to a Special Census. Based on this collaboration, an estimated cost for conducting a Special Census was derived.

Program Accomplishments

Information Services



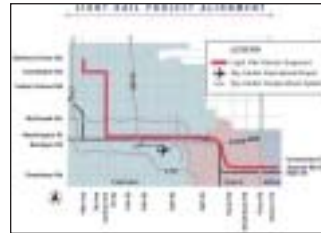
Provided Socioeconomic Alternative Projections for Various Planning Studies

Socioeconomic alternative projections were developed for various planning studies and alternatives using the MAG socioeconomic models. The studies included a Phoenix-Tempe alternative (Light Rail Scenario), alternatives for the Loop 303 alignment, and data development for new Tempe Traffic Analysis Zones.



Created Enrollment Projections by Quarter Section, School and District for an Elementary School District

MAG staff provided demographic and enrollment analysis for the Tempe Elementary School District. This included an analysis of existing enrollments and Census data and the creation of a model to forecast elementary school enrollments for the next five years.



Supported the Regional Public Transportation Authority in the FTA Review Process and Light Rail Socioeconomic Analysis

MAG staff supported the Regional Public Transportation Authority in the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) review process and in light rail socioeconomic and market analysis. Analysis was conducted on the land use impact of the light rail system. A presentation mapping the transportation and socioeconomic modeling results was prepared for FTA review.



Updated the Draft Five-Year Plan for Technology

As part of ongoing efforts to stay current with technology and facilitate business functions, MAG performed an update of its Draft Five-Year Plan for Technology. This Automation Support Strategy defines future enhancements and expansion of automation support tools and provides a benchmark for determining MAG's progress.

Program Accomplishments

Information Services



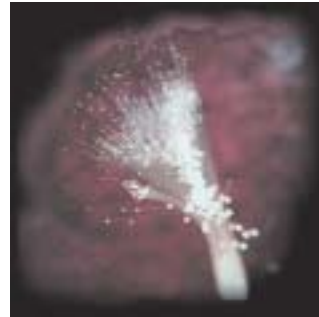
Provided Internet, E-mail and a Web Presence to Member Agencies through Regional Connections

Regional Connections has continued to flourish. Member agencies participating in the program include Buckeye, Gila Bend, Guadalupe, Youngtown, Tolleson and El Mirage. These cities and towns have already expanded on the MAG supplied equipment and Web sites. Some agencies have expanded their Web sites and one has even purchased its own mail server.



Implemented the Regional Videoconferencing System

MAG contracted with Norstan Communications, Inc. to implement the Regional Videoconferencing System and provide three years of service and support. This includes organizing, training, interfacing with member agencies and overseeing upgrade of MAG meeting rooms for teleconferencing applications. Implementation is nearing completion with videoconferencing equipment installed at 28 sites, approximately 50 site coordinators trained to use the equipment, and marketing efforts underway. MAG member agencies have used the equipment to conduct job interviews, business meetings, briefings, and participate in forums. Many member agencies have already seen the benefits that videoconferencing brings in terms of saving time and reducing travel.



Initiated the Regional Community Wide Area Network Project

This will help to ensure that the region has the telecommunications infrastructure required to support the efforts of member agencies, economic development, business and educational efforts. The Regional Community Wide Area Network (RCWAN) Study is currently underway. Member agencies have already returned surveys detailing their current and planned infrastructure. The member agencies and regional community are now being asked to participate in a needs assessment. The ultimate goal of the project is to create standards and an implementation plan that will assist the region in creating a RCWAN that meets its needs through a combination of municipal, public, and private sector facilities.

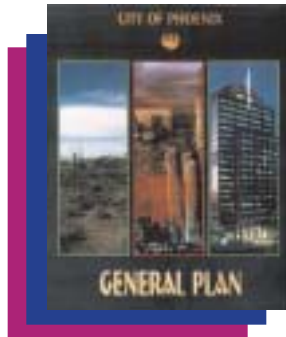


Adopted MAG Amendments to International Building, Residential, and Mechanical Codes

In accordance with its mission to promote uniformity in the adoption of Building Codes, the MAG Building Codes Committee unanimously adopted MAG amendments to the 2000 International Building Code, the 2000 International Residential Code and the 2000 International Mechanical Code. The Building Codes Committee also intends to establish a regular cycle for adopting updates to the codes and minimizing the number of amendments to those codes.

Program Accomplishments

Regional Development



Developed Planners Stakeholders Group

The Planners Stakeholders Group includes planning representatives from all member agencies, the State Department of Commerce, ADOT, FHWA, and planning consultants. This is the single advisory group to MAG's Regional Development Division regarding land-planning issues, and it also provides a monthly forum for member agency planners to share information. It is a framework for discussion and consensus based on planning professionalism, no matter what the planning scale.

The content of the Planners Stakeholders Group meetings include the following:

- MAG briefings and presentations about important regional projects.
- State briefings about the Growing Smarter Oversight Council.

- Member agency briefings about general plan updates and amendments.
- Presentation and distribution of completed reports for the Regional Growing Smarter Implementation Project.
- Discussion and follow-up of issues raised by member agency representatives.
- MAG briefings on regional policy discussions and results that arise from other MAG committees, advisory groups, and task forces.

Conducted General Plan and Major Amendment Reviews

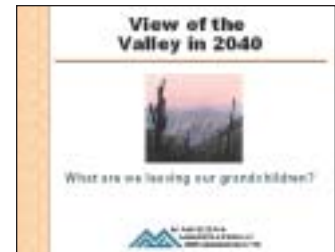
MAG staff conducts reviews of member agency general plan updates that are mandated by Growing Smarter/Plus laws. Our reviews are based on MAG's adopted policies and plans – 18 total for regional transportation, environmental, and land use. The Regional Development Division works closely with member agency planners in preparing these reviews. Also, new information from the GIS Database/Enhancement Project, Regional Transportation Plan, and Regional Growing Smarter Implementation Project is being incorporated into our review letters as it becomes available. Additionally, the content of our reviews is evolving based on discussions with member agency planners, the State Department of

Commerce, and the State Growing Smarter Oversight Council.

During calendar year 2000, the Regional Development Division received draft general plans, draft general plan elements, and major amendments from Phoenix, Gilbert, Buckeye, Maricopa County, Scottsdale, Tempe, Douglas Ranch (Buckeye), Surprise, Goodyear, Chandler, Avondale, and Mesa. MAG prepared regional reviews for all except the Surprise and Goodyear general plan elements. As of November 2001, we received response letters from Phoenix, Gilbert, and Maricopa County, and distributed them to the Planners Stakeholders Group.

Program Accomplishments

Regional Development



Participated in Greater Phoenix Economic Council

MAG staff has enhanced its relationship with the Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC). A sustained effort has been made to participate with the MAG Region's economic development community and private sector. MAG actively participates in the following:

GPEC Strategic Plan

GPEC's annual work program is based on long-range strategic goals. MAG staff actively participated in two workshops that resulted in four strategic goals to be implemented immediately in GPEC's work program. One of those is regional economic development and growth management. MAG is also an active participant in the committees that will carry this out.

Business Leadership Coalition

This is a coalition of nine

economic development organizations for private-sector-led strategic responses to the regional impact on the Greater Phoenix economy after the September 11 attack. In November 2001, the coalition held an economic summit attended by 300 private sector representatives. As a result, seven items for a "continuous agenda" were identified and lead organizations were assigned to each of them for implementation. MAG will provide technical expertise for a Regional Transportation Strategy, working with the East Valley Partnership, Valley Business Council, and WESTMARC.

Smart Growth Task Force

This task force, part of the GPEC Economic Development Directors Team, is co-chaired by representatives from MAG and Salt River Project. Its single project is one stimulated

by MAG's Regional Growing Smarter Implementation Project – the regional technical report on Economic Change. This will identify economic development targets, goals, and supporting community improvement policies for the next 10 to 20 years for each municipality and the region.

Presented View of Valley 2040

Since December 2000, MAG staff has presented our "View of the Valley 2040" to many organizations, both public and private. The presentation's theme is the regional issues that we will need to deal with in order to maintain quality of life while doubling in population in the future, and perhaps building out to four times our present size. The presentation delivers a strong message that has been an effective communication and motivational tool.

Program Accomplishments

Regional Development



Working on the Regional Growing Smarter Implementation Project

The MAG Regional Growing Smarter Implementation Project, funded by the Federal Highway Administration's Transportation and Community System Preservation Pilot Project, has three major objectives:

- To implement Arizona's Growing Smarter/Plus statutes and regional growing smarter planning in other ways.
- To understand the region's future on a systems basis, which includes future demographics, economy, land planning, regional infrastructure, school facility needs, fiscal soundness, and affordable housing.
- To provide MAG member agencies tools and information that can be used in local and regional planning.

number of fronts. The project includes study papers on local best planning practices and regional technical reports on water availability and costs, fiscal balance/sales tax base, public school facilities by school district, affordable housing, and development impact fees.

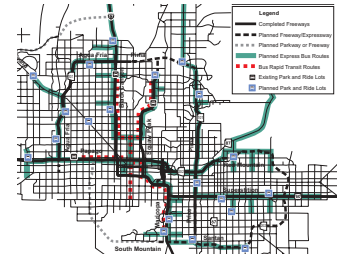
Tracked the State Growing Smarter Oversight Council

Arizona's Growing Smarter Oversight Council was created by the Governor to be a standing body. It is comprised of about 30 members, including state agency directors and representatives from multiple stakeholders groups across the state. The purpose of the Council is to monitor the implementation of the Growing Smarter/Plus laws through testimony from multiple stakeholder groups that are affected, and to make legislative recommendations to improve the statutes' implementation. MAG staff closely tracked the Council's progress, attending every meeting.

Staff is working to achieve these objectives on a

Program Accomplishments Transportation

2003 to 2007 Program



Increased Transportation Funding to the Region

Since 1998, the share of state transportation dollars allocated to the MAG region has increased substantially. At that time, MAG was to receive about \$220 million dollars in the ADOT five-year program for the period 1999 to 2003. In the new ADOT five-year program, the MAG region is allocated \$1.02 billion for the period 2003 to 2007, which is more than four-and-one-half times more funding for this region.

Provided Support for the Opening of 15 Miles of the Pima Freeway and Final Segments of the Pima and SR-51

During 2001, the Arizona Department of Transportation opened 15 miles of the Pima Freeway, providing a continuous freeway link from Scottsdale Road to I-17 and then connecting with Interstate 10 via the Agua Fria Freeway. The final two-mile segment of the Pima Freeway is now under construction and is expected to open by the summer of 2002.

The final two miles of SR-51 and the connection with the Pima Freeway is also under construction and should be completed by July 2003. A four-mile segment of the Red Mountain Freeway is currently under construction from Country Club Drive to Gilbert Road. It will be completed in January 2002.

These freeway openings have benefitted from MAG Federal Funds which are an integral part of the Regional Freeway Program.

Studied and Programmed Park-and-Ride Lots

In January 2000, MAG initiated a study to identify sites for 20 new park-and-ride lots across the region to support express bus service and car and van-pools. The study reviewed design criteria for the lots, as well as costs and operations and maintenance issues. Preliminary programming of funds for 10 of the 20 sites was conducted. In January 2001, the MAG Regional Council approved the Park-and-Ride Study and its recommendations. Eleven new lots totaling more than \$40 million were programmed in the MAG FY 2002-2006 TIP. MAG also assisted the Town of Gilbert in the implementation of a park-and-ride lot near Page and Ash Streets in Gilbert by funding and managing the preparation of the state and federally required environmental clearance document.

Program Accomplishments Transportation



Selected the Preferred Alignment for the Loop 303 Connection to I-17

In cooperation with ADOT, Maricopa County and other MAG member agencies, MAG staff conducted an analysis of alternative alignments for the Loop 303 corridor from Lake Pleasant Road to I-17. A total of five routes were analyzed to assess land use impacts, traffic volumes and service levels, and operational effects on other highway facilities.

Based on the technical analysis, with input from local government and other stakeholders in the area, the study recommended that the Lone Mountain Road alignment be selected as the preferred alternative. In January 2001, the MAG Regional Council approved the Lone Mountain alignment as the preferred option for the Loop 303 connection with I-17 in the next update of

the Long Range Transportation Plan. The alignment will be constructed as a limited access parkway up to I-17 on the west side, with access only at major arterial intersections. The council also approved the purchase of sufficient right-of-way for a fully controlled access facility west of I-17 sometime in the future. In addition, a connection along the New River alignment was designated for further study in the Regional Transportation Plan.

Completed the MAG ITS Strategic Plan Update in April 2001

In September 1999, MAG launched a project to develop a new Strategic Plan for Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS). The new plan was considered a high priority due to the rapid acceleration of ITS developments in the region since 1995, including the award of a federally funded ITS demonstration project named AZTech in 1996. The MAG ITS Committee directed the development of the plan update. The MAG Regional Council approved the updated plan in March 2001, as well as the final report was produced in April 2001.

Sponsored the Regional Transportation Safety Forum

The FY 2001 MAG Unified Planning Work Program included Transportation Safety Planning as a new planning activity. The main objective for FY2001 was identified as organizing and holding a Regional Transportation Safety Forum to address all modes of transportation. The forum was organized as a MAG-sponsored event at the annual Spring Conference of the Arizona Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers and International Municipal Signal Association. The forum was a success, with more than 70 participants attending. In five breakout groups, the participants helped identify transportation related safety issues or concerns in the region.

Program Accomplishments

Transportation



Launched the Freeway Service Patrol Program

The Regional Freeway Service Patrol Program is a coordinated program overseen by an Inter-agency Oversight Team that consists of the Maricopa Association of Governments, Arizona Department of Public Safety, Arizona Department of Transportation, and Federal Highway Administration. The Program has enhanced overall motorist safety and reduced disruptions to the flow of traffic on the freeway system. The program was launched as the Incident Management component of the region's Intelligent Transportation Systems. During the first six months of 2001, the program provided assistance to more than 4,300 stranded motorists, helped prompt removal of 1,300 abandoned vehicles, and assisted at nearly 90 freeway crash sites.



Prepared 2001 Update of the Long Range Transportation Plan

The MAG Long Range Regional Transportation Plan is updated each year to incorporate plan accomplishments, changes, and additions, as well as extend the 20-year planning horizon an additional year. Annual updating is particularly important to provide transportation inputs for the annual federal air quality conformity analyses. For the 2001 update, a number of important plan items were added, including: (1) the Regional Off-Street System Plan, (2) an updated ITS Plan, (3) a preferred alignment for the connection of Loop 303 to I-17, (4) the Regional Park-and-Ride Lot Plan, and (5) a recommended route designation for the CANAMEX Corridor in the Maricopa region. On July 25, 2001, the MAG Regional Council approved the Plan.



Hosted Five Expert Panel Forums and a Kick-off Dinner for the Regional Transportation Plan

MAG has undertaken a variety of activities to engage the public, government agencies, and private organizations to assist in developing the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). During the spring of 2001, MAG held five expert panel forums and a kick-off dinner to identify and address major forces that will affect travel behavior in the future. Panels composed of national and regional experts explored these forces in five public forums, which addressed: (1) demographics and social change, (2) the new economy, (3) the environment and resources, (4) land use and urban development, and (5) transportation and technology.



Held 16 Focus Groups for the Regional Transportation Plan

During the summer of 2001, 16 community focus groups were conducted throughout the MAG region to identify transportation ideas and issues from geographically and ethnically diverse groups of citizens. The focus groups consisted of more than 200 participants from the general public. The findings from the expert panels and focus groups will help guide the development of the RTP.

Program Accomplishments

Transportation



Completed the Inter-modal Planning Group Certification Review

Every three years, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) conduct a review and certification of MAG's transportation planning process to ensure that it complies with the provisions of TEA-21 and conforms to the planning guidelines and regulations of the federal transportation agencies. Extensive discussions were held over a two-day period on all aspects of the planning process. In addition, members of the public were asked for input. No deficiencies were found in the MAG planning process, although a number of recommendations were made to improve aspects of the process.



Completed Modeling for Light Rail Transit and FTA Peer Review

MAG has been very active in supporting the planning work for the initial light rail transit project in Phoenix and Tempe. Modifications to the MAG transportation planning model were made to incorporate the operating characteristics of light rail. In 2001, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) conducted a peer review of the MAG model using national experts. FTA officials not only found the MAG model and the assumptions being used as professionally sound, but they are also using the presentation and graphics that MAG produced to demonstrate how to package the modeling information that is being used to train other regional planning organizations.



Completed and Received Approval of West Valley Multi-Modal Transportation Corridor Plan

The West Valley Rivers Project is actually two separate ongoing projects: the MAG West Valley Multi-Modal Transportation Corridor Plan and the Flood Control District of Maricopa County Agua Fria Watercourse Master Plan. Initiated as the West Valley Recreation Corridor by community visionary John F. Long, and working with \$450,000 in funds provided through the Arizona Department of Transportation Enhancement Funds Program, the MAG West Valley Multi-Modal Transportation Corridor Plan creates a master plan and action plan to implement a 42-mile trail network for pedestrians, equestrians, bicyclists and other non-motorized trail users.

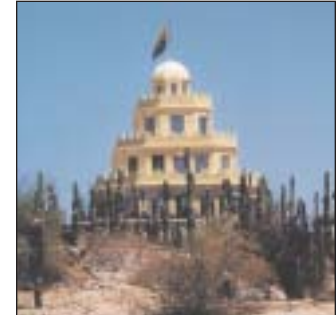
The plan links Avondale with the community of New River while passing through Phoenix,



Glendale, Peoria and unincorporated areas of Maricopa County. On October 3, 2001, the Regional Council approved the MAG West Valley Multi-Modal Transportation Corridor Plan and accompanying action plan.

Program Accomplishments

Transportation



Completed the MAG Regional Off-Street System Plan

The Regional Off-Street System (ROSS) Plan provides a region wide system of off-street paths/trails for non-motorized transportation. The goal of the ROSS Plan is to help make bicycling and walking viable options for daily travel trips. The Plan provides guidance to MAG member agencies in creating an off-street non-motorized transportation system, and focuses on potential corridors that form a "backbone system" of off-street routes. The ROSS Plan identifies issues associated with paths/trails and non-motorized transportation, identifies corridors that could be used for paths/trails in the region and provides design guidelines. Model ordinances are also included to assist member agencies in creating paths/trails. The Regional Council adopted the Plan in February 2001.

Received \$4.8 Million in Enhancement Funds for Projects in the Region

In Round VIII and Round IX, 11 projects in the MAG region were recommended for funding by the State Transportation Enhancement Review Committee. Five projects were approved for funding by the State Transportation Board in January 2001.

- In Peoria along the New River, one mile of path and amenities will be constructed.
- In Glendale, a bicycle education project will provide traffic safety education to schools and libraries.
- In Phoenix, a new bicycle/pedestrian environment will be created along 7th Avenue between Indian School and Camelback Road to provide transportation linkage between residents and nearby commercial development.
- In Gilbert, 1.5 miles of pathway along the Consolidated Canal will

provide access for bicyclists and pedestrians between Mesa, Gilbert and Chandler.

- Another project will close a gap in the Sun Circle Trail over I-10 by constructing a bridge for non-motorized travelers.

In December 2001, six projects were approved for funding by the State Transportation Board.

- In Goodyear, a historic railroad station will be moved to the new City Center.
- Another project will improve the streetscape along 2nd Avenue in Phoenix between Monroe and Filmore, to better meet the needs of pedestrians and bicyclists.
- In Avondale, safety railing will be installed along two miles of a Flood Control District of Maricopa County maintenance road to create a safe non-motorized

trail along the Agua Fria River. This project is part of the West Valley Rivers project initiated by MAG and the Flood Control District of Maricopa County.

- In Gilbert, a path will help link four canals: Eastern, Consolidated, Western and Roosevelt.
- In Phoenix, a historic vista along the Loop 202 will be preserved to maintain views of Tovrea Castle.
- In Wickenburg, a three-mile pathway will be built to connect residents to a local park.

Program Accomplishments

Transportation



Awarded Six Grants for Design of Pedestrian Areas, and Completed Design of Two Pedestrian Areas through the MAG Pedestrian Design Assistance Program

In January 2001, the MAG Regional Council approved funding for three projects under the FY 2001 Pedestrian Design Assistance Program, and approved an on-call consultant list to be used under the program to assist cities in designing pedestrian friendly areas. These projects include:

- City of Glendale – Creating a More Walkable City One Mile at a Time – \$50,000.
- City of Phoenix – South Mountain to River Multi-Use Trail System – \$50,000.
- City of Avondale – Western Avenue Pedestrian Friendly Design Project – \$30,000.

On October 3, 2001, the MAG Regional Council approved funding for the following projects under

the FY 2002 Pedestrian Design Assistance Program:

- City of Phoenix – 2nd Avenue Pedestrian Project – \$50,000.
- City of Goodyear – Litchfield Road, Western Avenue and Yuma Road Pedestrian Path Renovation – \$25,000.
- City of Glendale – The "Old Roma" Pedestrian Alleyway-to-Walkway Pilot Project – \$50,000.

Initiated Chandler Transit Major Investment Study

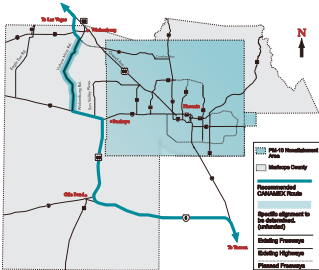
Under a request from the City of Chandler, MAG initiated a transit study in Chandler to identify potential rapid transit corridors in the city along with potential connections to neighboring cities. The work for the MAG study is being integrated with an ongoing Transit Plan Update in Chandler. Based on an assessment of conditions of the study area, a set of potential transit alignments and technologies will be developed and evaluated. A key consideration is interface with ongoing studies, such as the Scottsdale/Tempe Major Investment Study and the initial operating segment of the Central Phoenix/East Valley Light Rail Transit Project. The study will result in a locally preferred alternative for high capacity transit. Begun in July 2001, completion of the study is expected in early fall, 2002.

Initiated Regional Bicycle Education Project

MAG is providing \$80,000 to the Regional Public Transportation Authority for a public outreach campaign to educate Valley residents on bicycle safety. The goal of this project is to develop and implement the advertising and public relations for promoting the message of "ride with the flow of traffic" on bicycle facilities, including bike lanes and off-street trails, to help increase the safety of bicyclists. Objectives of the program are to educate Valley residents on bicycle safety to ensure safe and enjoyable riding, increase awareness, and introduce Valley residents to riding on the right. The campaign message is Bike Right: Ride With the Flow of Traffic. Initiated in November 2001, this project will be completed by the spring of 2002.

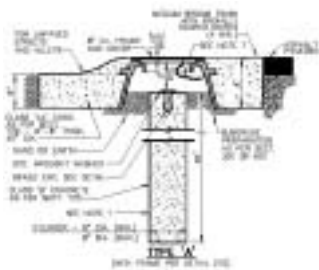
Program Accomplishments

Transportation



Recommended Route for the CANAMEX Corridor

On April 25, 2001, the MAG Regional Council passed a resolution recommending a routing for the segment of the national high priority corridor from Canada to Mexico ("CANAMEX") through the MAG region. The recommended routing, which includes I-8, SR 85, I-10, an upgraded facility in the vicinity of the existing Wickenburg Road/Vulture Mine Road, and the western portion of the planned Wickenburg Bypass, was added to the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan that was approved in July 2001. The recommendation for the routing was the result of a study jointly initiated by MAG and ADOT in late 1999.



Updated the MAG Standardized Specifications and Details for Public Works Construction Document

The 2001 update to the MAG Specifications and Details included converting and updating all existing detail drawings to computer aided drafting (CAD) format. This will allow the drawings to be incorporated electronically into construction plans, and also make future revisions easier to produce. The document and drawings also are now posted on the MAG Web site for easy access.



Initiated Work on an Update of the MAG Regional Aviation System

MAG staff guided the initial stages of a Regional Aviation System Update, including the preparation of forecasts of future demand. The objective of the update is to meet the future demand for air transportation in a safe and efficient manner. During the year, an inventory of the airport system was developed and forecasts of demand were prepared. These forecasts will be compared with the system capacity, and as necessary, alternatives to meet future demand will be developed and evaluated. Out of this evaluation will emerge recommended capital improvements and policies to meet future demand.

